

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1                   1.     A system for providing a file in multiple languages,  
2     comprising:  
3                   a file having text for displaying in multiple languages;  
4                   a string identifier for uniquely identifying each text in said file;  
5                   a language identifier for uniquely identifying each language  
6     available for said file;  
7                   a localized string for displaying text defined by said string  
8     identifier and said language identifier;  
9                   a message catalog for storing a plurality of said localized strings;  
10    and,  
11                  a localized string retrieval function for retrieving said localized  
12    string according to said string identifier and said language identifier from said  
13    message catalog.
- 1                   2.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said localized  
2     string retrieval function retrieves said localized string according to said string  
3     identifier and said language identifier from said message catalog for each text  
4     in said file.
- 1                   3.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said localized  
2     string retrieval function retrieves said localized string responsive to a request  
3     for said file.
- 1                   4.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said message  
2     catalog includes a default language.
- 1                   5.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said  
2     message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored on a  
3     single storage medium.

1           6.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said  
2 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored as a  
3 single firmware.

1           7.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said  
2 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored as a  
3 single application.

4           8.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said  
5 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored on a web  
6 server.

1           9.     The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said localized  
2 string retrieval function is stored in said file.

1           10.    The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file is in  
2 Hyper Text Markup Language.

1           11.    The system as defined in claim 10 wherein said localized  
2 string retrieval function is C code embedded in said file in Hyper Text Markup  
3 Language.

1           12.    A method for providing a file in multiple languages using  
2 a device linked to a message catalog having a plurality of localized strings for  
3 displaying text in the file, wherein each localized string is defined by a string  
4 identifier that uniquely identifies each text in the file and a language identifier  
5 that uniquely identifies each language available for the file, comprising the  
6 steps of:

7                   requesting a file in a specified language by the user;  
8                   identifying the specified language;  
9                   contacting the message catalog with the string identifier and the  
10                  specified language; and,

11                    returning the localized string designated by the string identifier  
12 and specified language.

1                    13.    The method according to claim 12 further comprising the  
2 step displaying the localized string to the user.

1                    14.    The method according to claim 12 further comprising the  
2 step of returning the length of the localized string designated by the string  
3 identifier and specified language.

4                    15.    The method according to claim 12 further comprising the  
5 step of specifying a language by the user.

1                    16.    The method according to claim 12 wherein prior to the  
2 step of identifying the specified language further comprising the steps of:

3                    executing a get language identifier function; and,  
4                    obtaining a language identifier from the get language identifier  
5 function.

1                    17.    The method according to claim 16 wherein said step of  
2 executing a get language identifier function further comprising the steps of:

3                    determining whether the message catalog is supported by the  
4 device; and,

5                    returning a default language of the message catalog when the  
6 message catalog is not supported.

1                    18.    The method according to claim 17 further comprising the  
2 steps of:

3                    determining whether the language has been specified by the user;

4                    returning the user specified language when a language is  
5 specified by the user; and,

6                    returning a default language of the message catalog when a  
7 language is not specified by the user.

1                   19.    The method according to claim 17 further comprising the  
2    steps of:

3                   determining whether there is a default language of the device;  
4                   returning the specified language when there is a default language  
5    of the computing device; and,  
6                   returning a default language of the message catalog when there is  
7    no default language of the computer device.

1                   20.    The method according to claim 12 wherein prior to the  
2    step of contacting the message catalog further comprising the step of contacting  
3    the message catalog with the character set identifier.

1                   21.    A system for providing a file in multiple languages using a  
2    device linked to a message catalog having a plurality of localized strings for  
3    displaying text in the file, wherein each localized string is defined by a string  
4    identifier that uniquely identifies each text in the file and a language identifier  
5    that uniquely identifies each language available for the file, comprising:  
6                   means for requesting a file in a specified language by the user;  
7                   means for identifying the specified language;  
8                   means for contacting the message catalog with the string  
9    identifier and the specified language; and,  
10                  means for returning the localized string designated by the string  
11    identifier and specified language.

1                   22.    A computer program product comprising a computer  
2    usable medium having computer readable program codes embodied in the  
3    medium that when executed causes a computer to:

4                   request a file in a specified language by the user;  
5                   identify the specified language;

6                   contact the message catalog with the string identifier and the  
7 specified language; and,

8                   return the localized string designated by the string identifier and  
9 specified language.

1                   23. A computer program product comprising a computer  
2 usable medium having computer readable program codes embodied in the  
3 medium that when executed causes a peripheral device to:

4                   request a file in a specified language by the user;

5                   identify the specified language;

6                   contact the message catalog with the string identifier and the  
7 specified language; and,

8                   return the localized string designated by the string identifier and  
9 specified language.